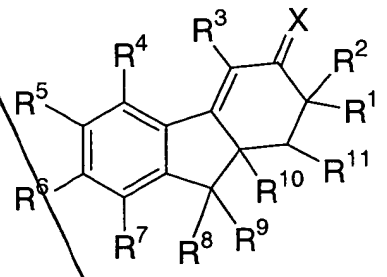
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the Claim 1 with the clean version provided immediately below to read as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A compound of the formula:



wherein X is selected from the group consisting of: O, N-OR^a, N-NR^{a}R^b and C_{1-6} alkylidene, wherein said alkylidene group is unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from hydroxy, amino, O(C_{1-4}alkyl), NH(C_{1-4}alkyl), or N(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, and C_{2-6}alkynyl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl and alkynyl groups are either unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from OR^c, SR^c, NR^{b}R^c ,C(=O)R^c, C(=O)CH_2OH, or phenyl, wherein said phenyl group can either be unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4}alkyl, OH, O(C_{1-4}alkyl), NH_2, NH(C_{1-4}alkyl), NH(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$, halo, CN, NO_2, CO_2H, CO_2(C_{1-4}alkyl), C(O)H, and C(O)(C_{1-4}alkyl);

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, iodo, O(C=O)R^c, C(=O)R^c, CO_2R^c, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, and C_{2-6}alkynyl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl and alkynyl groups are either unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from OR^c, SR^c, NR^{b}R^c ,C(=O)R^c, C(=O)CH_2OH, or phenyl, wherein said phenyl group can either be unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4}alkyl, OH, O(C_{1-4}alkyl), NH_2, NH(C_{1-4}alkyl), NH(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$, halo, CN, NO_2, CO_2H, CO_2(C_{1-4}alkyl), C(O)H, and C(O)(C_{1-4}alkyl);

or R^1 and R^2, when taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a carbonyl group;
or R^1 and R^2, when taken together, form a C_{1-6} alkylidene group, wherein said alkylidene group is either unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, $O(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, $N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, and phenyl, wherein said phenyl group can either be unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of $C_{1-4}alkyl$, OH, $O(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, NH_2, $NH(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, $NH(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, halo, CN, NO_2, CO_2H, $CO_2(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, C(O)H, and $C(O)(C_{1-4}alkyl)$;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, NR^aR^c, OR^a, $C(=O)R^a$, CO_2R^c, $CONR^aR^c$, SR^a, $S(=O)R^a$, SO_2R^a, $C_{1-10}alkyl$, $C_{2-10}alkenyl$, $C_{2-10}alkynyl$, $C_{3-7}cycloalkyl$, 4-7 membered heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, and heteroarylalkyl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl groups are either unsubstituted or independently substituted with 1, 2 or 3 groups selected from fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, OR^a, NR^aR^c, $O(C=O)R^a$, $O(C=O)NR^aR^c$, $NR^a(C=O)R^c$, $NR^a(C=O)OR^c$, $C(=O)R^a$, CO_2R^a, $CONR^aR^c$, $CSNR^aR^c$, SR^a, $S(O)R^a$, SO_2R^a, $SO_2NR^aR^c$, YR^d, and ZYR^d;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and fluoro;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, methyl, amino, OR^b, OR^a, $O(C=O)R^c$, $O(C=O)OR^c$, and $NH(C=O)R^c$;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, methyl, OR^b, OR^a, $O(C=O)R^c$, and $O(C=O)OR^c$;

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, OR^b, NR^bR^c, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, nitro, $C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{2-6}alkenyl$, CF_3, and CHF_2;

R^8 and R^9 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, $C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{2-6}alkenyl$, and $C_{2-6}alkynyl$,
or R^8 and R^9, when taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a 3-5 membered cycloalkyl ring,

or R^8 and R^9, when taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a carbonyl group;

R^{10} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{2-10}alkynyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl and heteroarylalkyl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl and heteroarylalkyl groups can be optionally substituted with a group selected from chloro, bromo, iodo, OR^b, SR^b, $C(=O)R^b$, or 1-5 fluoro,

or R^{10} and R^1, when taken together with the three intervening carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a 5-6 membered cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl ring which can be optionally substituted with 1 or 2 groups selected from oxo, hydroxy, or C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^{11} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^a is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10}alkyl, and phenyl, wherein said alkyl group can be optionally substituted with a group selected from hydroxy, amino, $O(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, $NH(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, $N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, phenyl, or 1-5 fluoro, and

wherein said phenyl groups can either be unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4}alkyl, OH, $O(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, NH_2, $NH(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, $NH(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, halo, CN, NO_2, CO_2H, $CO_2(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, C(O)H, and $C(O)(C_{1-4}alkyl)$;

R^b is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10}alkyl, benzyl and phenyl, wherein said phenyl group can either be unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4}alkyl, OH, $O(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, NH_2, $NH(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, $NH(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, halo, CN, NO_2, CO_2H, $CO_2(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, C(O)H, and $C(O)(C_{1-4}alkyl)$;

R^c is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10}alkyl and phenyl, wherein said phenyl group can either be unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4}alkyl, OH, $O(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, NH_2, $NH(C_{1-4}alkyl)$,

$NH(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, halo, CN, NO_2, CO_2H, $CO_2(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, C(O)H, and $C(O)(C_{1-4}alkyl)$;
or R^a and R^c, whether or not on the same atom, can be taken together with any attached and intervening atoms to form a 4-7 membered ring;

R^d is selected from the group consisting of NR^bR^c, OR^a, CO_2R^a, $O(C=O)R^a$, CN, $NR^c(C=O)R^b$, $CONR^aR^c$, $SO_2NR^aR^c$, and a 4-7 membered N-heterocycloalkyl ring that can be optionally interrupted by O, S, NR^c, or C=O;

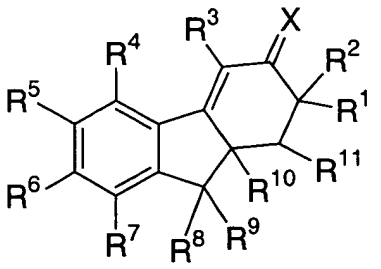
Y is selected from the group consisting of CR^bR^c, C_{2-6} alkylene and C_{2-6} alkenylene, wherein said alkylene and alkenylene linkers can be optionally interrupted by O, S, or NR^c;

Z is selected from the group consisting of O, S, NR^c, C=O, O(C=O), (C=O)O, $NR^c(C=O)$ or $(C=O)NR^c$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

Please amend Claim 2 with the clean version provided immediately below to read as follows:

2. (Twice Amended) A compound of the formula:



wherein X is selected from the group consisting of O and N-OR^a;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, wherein said alkyl group is either unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from OR^c or $C(=O)R^c$;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, iodo, and C_{1-6}alkyl, wherein said alkyl group is either unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from OR^c or $C(=O)R^c$;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, aryl and heteroaryl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, aryl and heteroaryl groups are either unsubstituted or independently substituted with 1, 2 or 3 groups selected from fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, OR^a, NR^aR^c, $C(=O)R^a$, CO_2R^c, $NR^aC(=O)R^c$, $CONR^aR^c$, $CSNR^aR^c$, SR^a, YR^d, and ZYR^d ;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and fluoro;

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, $O(C=O)R^c$ and OR^a;

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, NR^bR^c, chloro, bromo, nitro and C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^8 and R^9 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl;
or R^8 and R^9, when taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a carbonyl group;

R^{10} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10}alkyl, C_{2-10}alkenyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl and cycloalkylalkyl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl and cycloalkylalkyl groups can be optionally substituted with a group selected from OR^b, SR^b, $C(=O)R^b$, or 1-5 fluoro;
or R^{10} and R^1, when taken together with the three intervening carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a 5-6 membered cycloalkyl ring which can be optionally substituted with C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^{11} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^a is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10}alkyl, and phenyl, wherein said alkyl group can be optionally substituted with a group selected from hydroxy, amino, $O(C_{1-4}$alkyl), $NH(C_{1-4}$alkyl), $N(C_{1-4}$alkyl$)_2$, phenyl, or 1-5 fluoro;

R^b is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10}alkyl, benzyl and phenyl;

R^c is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_{1-10}alkyl and phenyl;
or R^a and R^c, whether or not on the same atom, can be taken together with any attached and intervening atoms to form a 4-7 membered ring;

R^d is selected from the group consisting of NR^bR^c, OR^a, CO_2R^a, $O(C=O)R^a$, CN, $NR^c(C=O)R^b$, $CONR^aR^c$, $SO_2NR^aR^c$, and a 4-7 membered N-heterocycloalkyl ring that can be optionally interrupted by O, S, NR^c, or C=O;

Y is selected from the group consisting of CR^bR^c, C_{2-6} alkylene and C_{2-6} alkenylene, wherein said alkylene and alkenylene linkers can be optionally interrupted by O, S, or NR^c;

Z is selected from the group consisting of O, S, NR^c, C=O, O(C=O), (C=O)O, $NR^c(C=O)$ or $(C=O)NR^c$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

Please amend Claim 3 with the clean version provided immediately below to read as follows:

3. (Amended) The compound according to Claim 2, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of O, N-OH and $N\text{-}OCH_3$, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

Please amend Claim 4 with the clean version provided immediately below to read as follows:

4. (Amended) The compound according to Claim 3, wherein R^6 is selected from the group consisting of OR^a and $O(C=O)R^c$ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

Please amend Claim 5 with the clean version provided immediately below to read as follows:

5. (Amended) The compound according to Claim 4, wherein R^3 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, C_{1-10}alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl, wherein said alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl groups are either unsubstituted or independently substituted with 1, 2 or 3 groups selected from fluoro, chloro, bromo, cyano, NR^aR^c, $C(=O)R^a$, CO_2R^c, $CONR^aR^c$, SR^a, YR^d, and ZYR^d , or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

Please amend Claim 5 with the clean version provided immediately below to read as follows:

6. (Amended) The compound according to Claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

4-bromo-7-hydroxy-9a-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(3*E*)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one oxime;

9a-[(1*E*)-1-butenyl]-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-3-methylene-2,3,9,9a-tetrahydro-1*H*-fluoren-7-ol;

9a-butyl-4-cyano-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-benzyl-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a butyl-7-hydroxy-4-(2-thienyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-ene;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-{4-[2-(1-piperidinyl)ethoxy]phenyl}-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*E*)-3-[4-(9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-3-oxo-2,3,9,9a-tetrahydro-1*H*-fluoren-4-yl)phenyl]-2-propenoic acid;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-8-methyl-1,2,9,9a-3*H*-tetrahydro-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-8-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a butyl-4,8-dimethyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-8-chloro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*SR*)-9a-butyl-2,4-dimethyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*RS*)-9a-butyl-2,4-dimethyl-7-hydroxy-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2,2,4-trimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*RS*)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2-iodo-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*RS*)-9a-butyl-2,7-dihydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*RS*,9a*SR*)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2-(2-hydroxyethyl)-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*SR*)-2-allyl-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*RS*,9a*SR*)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2-(3-hydroxy-2-oxopropyl)-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(9*SR*,9a*SR*)-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-9-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-8-chloro-7-hydroxy-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-acetyl-9a-butyl-8-chloro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-8-chloro-4-cyano-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-4-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-8-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-8-chloro-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-8-chloro-4-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-8-chloro-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-8-chloro-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

2-hydroxy-5-methylgibba-1(10a),2,4,4b-tetraen-6-one;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-3-oxo-2,3,9,9a-1*H*-fluoren-7-yl pivalate;

7-hydroxy-4,9a-dimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

7-hydroxy-4-methyl-9a-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

7-hydroxy-9a-isobutyl-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-4-ethyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4,9a-dibutyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-4-chloro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-iodo-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-trifluoromethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-phenyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-4-(2-furyl)-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

7-hydroxy-9a-(3-iodopropyl)-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

7-hydroxy-4-methyl-9a-(2-methyl-1-propenyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-4-{4-[2-(dimethylamino)ethoxy]phenyl}-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;

9a-butyl-4-{4-[2-(diethylamino)ethoxy]-phenyl}-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-{4-[2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethoxy]phenyl}-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-{4-[2-(4-morpholinyl)ethoxy]phenyl}-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;

9a-butyl-4-{4-[3-(dimethylamino)propoxy]-phenyl}-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-{4-[3-(1-piperidinyl)propoxy]phenyl}-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;

(3*E*)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one *O*-methyloxime;

(2*SR*,9a*SR*)-9a-butyl-2-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*SR*)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*SR*)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*SR*)-4,9a-dibutyl-7-hydroxy-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*SR*)-4-bromo-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*RS*,9a*SR*)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2-(2-oxoethyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*SR*)-2,9a-dibutyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*RS*,9a*RS*)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2,4-dimethyl-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2,2-dipropyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-2,2-dipropyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*RS*)-9a-butyl-2,7-dihydroxy-4-methyl-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-2,2-diethyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*SR*)-7-hydroxy-2,4,9a-trimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*SR*)-7-hydroxy-4,9a-dimethyl-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*SR*,9a*SR*)-9a-butyl-8-chloro-2-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-chloro-9a-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-bromo-9a-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4,8-dimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-chloro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-9a-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-bromo-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-9a-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

7-hydroxy-4,8-dimethyl-9a-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-chloro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-9a-[(1*E*)-1-propenyl]-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-bromo-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4,8-dimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-8-nitro-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-amino-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-8-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-8-methyl-4-{4-[2-piperidinyl)-ethoxy]phenyl}-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-7-hydroxy-9a-propyl-1*H*-fluorene-3,9(2*H*,9a*H*)-dione;

4,8-dibromo-7-hydroxy-9a-propyl-1*H*-fluorene-3,9(2*H*,9a*H*)-dione;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-6-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-8-chloro-4-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,9,9a-tetrahydro-1*H*-fluoren-7-yl pivalate;

9a-butyl-6,8-difluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-4-ethyl-6,8-difluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-6,8-difluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-bromo-9a-butyl-4-chloro-8-difluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-4,8-dibromo-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-6,8-difluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-chloro-9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-bromo-9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4,8-dimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4,9a-diethyl-6,8-difluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-8-chloro-9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-8-chloro-9a-(cyclopentylmethyl)-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-5-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-bromo-9a-ethyl-5-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-6,7-dihydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-bromo-9a-ethyl-6,7-dihydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-6-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-6-hydroxy-4-vinyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-allyl-9a-ethyl-6-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

2-hydroxy-5-methyl-7,8,9,10-tetrahydro-7,10a-methanocycloocta[*a*]inden-6(11*H*)-one;

7-amino-4-bromo-9a-butyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

7-amino-4,8-dibromo-9a-ethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

Please add the following new claims:

22. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 9a-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

23. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

24. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 4-bromo-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

25. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 9a-butyl-8-chloro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

26. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 9a-butyl-8-chloro-4-cyano-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

27. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4,8-dimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

28. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 4-bromo-8-chloro-9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

29. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 4-bromo-9a-butyl-8-chloro-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

30. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 9a-butyl-8-chloro-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

31. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 4-bromo-8-chloro-9a-(cyclopentylmethyl)-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

--